We claim:

1. A processing assembly for insertion into and removal from a channel which, in use, is rotated to create a centrifugal field, the processing assembly comprising,

a processing container having flexibility and which, in use, occupies the channel to receive fluids for separation in the centrifugal field, and

a carrier carrying the processing container outside the channel in a flexed condition conforming to the channel, the carrier limiting deformation of the processing container during insertion into or removal from the channel.

2. A processing assembly comprising

a centrifuge channel which, in use, is rotated to create a centrifugal field,

a processing container having flexibility and which, in use, occupies the centrifuge channel to receive fluids for separation in the centrifugal field, and

a carrier carrying the processing container outside the centrifuge channel in a flexed condition conforming to the centrifuge channel, the carrier limiting deformation of the processing container during insertion into or removal from the channel.

3. An assembly according to claim 2

wherein the centrifuge channel includes a curved region.

4. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the carrier is adapted to assume a generally lay-flat configuration in the absence of external force, and

wherein the carrier is flexed in response to applied external force out of the lay-flat condition into the flexed condition.

5. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the carrier is pre-shaped to retain the processing container in the flexed condition.

6. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the carrier is molded to retain the processing container in the flexed condition.

7. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the carrier is thermally formed to retain the processing container in the flexed condition.

8. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the carrier is vacuum formed to retain the processing container in the flexed condition.

9. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the carrier comprises paper material.

10. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the carrier comprises card board material.

11. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the carrier comprises plastic material.

12. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the processing container is secured to the carrier.

13. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the carrier includes first and second facing surfaces and an intermediate slot accommodating the processing container and retaining the processing container in the flexed condition.

14. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the carrier includes a surface contour which defines a wall contour for the processing container.

15. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the carrier includes a surface projection which defines a wall projection for the processing container.

16. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the processing container has a normal geometry unlike the channel.

17. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

and further including an umbilicus connected to the processing chamber for conveying fluids to and from the processing container.

18. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2

wherein the carrier includes a lubricious material.

19. A blood processing assembly comprising

a centrifuge channel which, in use, is

rotated to create a centrifugal field,

a processing container having flexibility and which, in use, occupies the centrifuge channel,

tubing integrally connected to the processing container to convey blood from a source into the processing container for separation into components in the centrifugal field, and

a carrier attached to the processing container and retaining the processing container outside the centrifuge channel in a flexed condition conforming to the centrifuge channel, the carrier limiting deformation of the processing container during insertion into or removal from the channel.

20. A blood processing assembly according to claim 19

wherein the tubing includes an umbilicus.

21. An assembly according to claim 19

wherein the centrifuge channel includes a curved region.

22. A method for manufacturing a generally flexible blood processing container, which, in use, is inserted or removed from a centrifugation channel having a shape, the method comprising the step of attaching a carrier to hold the blood processing container outside the centrifugation channel in a geometry generally conforming to the shape of the centrifugation channel, the carrier serving to resist deformation of the processing container from the geometry during insertion into or removal from the centrifugation channel.

23. A method for processing blood in a

generally flexible processing container occupying a centrifugation channel having a shape, the method comprising the steps of

attaching a carrier to hold the blood processing container outside the centrifugation channel in a geometry generally conforming to the shape of the centrifugation channel, the carrier serving to resist deformation of the processing container from the geometry,

inserting the processing channel into the centrifugation chamber while held in the geometry by the carrier, and

performing a blood processing procedure.